

'You Have the Right to Remain Silent!' Canadian Law in Everyday Life

COURSE TITLE:	Understanding Canadian Law	SCHOOL:	EYA
MINISTRY DOCUMENT:	Ontario Curriculum – Canadian & World Studies (Senior)	COURSE CODE:	CLU3M
COURSE TYPE/GRADE:	Grade 11 Mixed	CREDIT VALUE:	1.0
PREREQUISITE:	Canadian History Since World War I, Grade 10, Academic or Applied	YEAR:	2011 - 2012
TEACHER NAME:	Harriet Whiteman	PERIOD:	One
TEXTBOOK(S):	Handouts	REPLACEMENT COST:	

COURSE DESCRIPTION :

This course explores Canadian law with a focus on legal issues that are relevant to people's everyday lives. Students will investigate fundamental legal concepts and processes to gain a practical understanding of Canada's legal system, including the criminal justice system. Students will use critical-thinking, inquiry, and communication skills to develop informed opinions on legal issues and apply this knowledge in a variety of ways and settings, including case analysis, legal research projects, mock trials, and debates.

OVERALL CURRICULUM EXPECTATIONS:

Heritage

- explain what law is and why societies have laws, and describe the different categories of law;
- analyse the contemporary impact of major historical developments in Canadian law;
- explain the law-making process in Canada, including how laws are developed, interpreted, applied, challenged, and enforced.

Rights & Freedoms

- describe the sources of rights and freedoms in Canada and explain how particular rights and freedoms may conflict;
- describe historical and contemporary barriers to the equal enjoyment of human rights in Canada;
- describe the rights and freedoms enshrined in Canadian law and explain how they are interpreted, how they may be limited, and how they are enforced in Canada and in Ontario.

Criminal Law & Procedures

- explain how a criminal offence is defined in Canada;
- describe the processes, legal institutions, and methods involved in bringing a criminal case to trial and in resolving it;
- analyse the purposes of sentencing, including those relating to alternative methods of imposing sanctions or regulating behaviour;
- explain how the criminal law applies to young people.

Regulation & Dispute Resolution

- distinguish between private and public law;
- describe the processes, legal institutions, and methods involved in bringing a civil dispute to trial and resolution;
- explain how the law applies to family matters;
- analyse the role of law as it applies to contractual obligations and claims for compensation for personal injury or loss;
- explain the dynamic nature of law, including the way in which it evolves in response to technology and changes in societal values.

Methods of Legal Inquiry & Communication

- use appropriate research methods to gather, organize, evaluate, and synthesize information;
- apply the steps in the process of legal interpretation and analysis;
- explain, discuss, and interpret legal issues using a variety of formats and forms of communication.

ASSESSMENT:

Throughout the course, a range of instructional strategies will be used to address students' needs. **Assessment** is the ongoing process of gathering and analyzing information from a variety of sources. **Diagnostic assessments** are used to identify students' strengths and learning needs to assist with planning, modifying and adjusting instruction. **Formative assessments**, which occur throughout the learning process, give students multiple opportunities to practice and receive feedback in an effort to improve their learning and achievement of the curriculum expectations.

EVALUATION:

Evaluation measures achievement of the overall curriculum expectations. They are summative and usually take place at the end of important segments of learning (end of a unit, strand, term, semester), following student practice and constructive feedback. Evaluations give students an opportunity to apply and demonstrate their learning based on established achievement criteria.

Seventy per cent (70%) of the final grade will be based on the evaluations conducted during the course. There will be numerous and varied opportunities for students to demonstrate their achievement of the curriculum expectations across all four achievement categories according to the weighting described below. Missed and/or incomplete assignments will have an impact on the final grade where there are a number of curriculum expectations that have not been evaluated because of missed assignments.

Thirty per cent (30%) of the final grade will be based on summative evaluation(s) administered towards the end of the course and following the same weighting of the achievement chart categories as the term evaluation. All students must take part in the course-culminating activities that make up the 30% final evaluation mark.

WEIGHTING ACCORDING TO ACHIEVEMENT CHART CATEGORIES:

Knowledge	25	%
Thinking	25	%
Communication	25	%
Application	25	%

LEARNING SKILLS:

There are five clusters of **learning skills** required for effective learning, achievement of the curriculum expectations and student success in and out of school: Working Independently, Teamwork, Organization, Work Habits/Homework and Initiative.

LATE SUBMISSIONS:

Submitting course work on time is an important aspect of student learning and time management. Students will be informed on due date and ultimate deadline for each evaluation, which is the last opportunity for students to submit an assignment/evaluation. Late submissions will be reported as part of the learning skills on the report card and a variety of strategies will be used to encourage on-time submission of assignments including parent conferences, counselling, detentions, contracts and extra help. A mark deduction of up to 10% for late submissions may be used as a last resort, if all other strategies have been tried.

MISSED TESTS:

If a student is absent on the day of a test, the student is expected to bring a note from a parent/guardian explaining the test day absence on the day of their return to school. A doctor's note may be required.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Students are expected to be academically honest by submitting their own original work, and the marks they receive are intended to reflect their own academic achievement. Academic dishonesty in any form is a serious offence.

COMMUNICATION:

Extra help will be available during period three and after school. Phone calls home will be made when required to discuss academics, attendance, punctuality or behaviour. The teacher can be contacted at the school by phone 416-396-2925. Parent/Teacher Night will occur on _____; any additional meetings will be arranged as required.

COURSE EVALUATION PLAN

30% Final Evaluations

EVALUATION TASKS	ACHIEVEMENT CHART FOCUS	WEIGHTING (%)
Independent Study Project	All Categories	15%
Exam	All Categories	10%
Portfolio	All Categories	5%

70% Course Work

- ★ All assignments marked with this star are designed to enable student choice. You may select an assignment from the Choice Board below within the column indicated next to the star (i.e., 1, 2 or 3). Any additional options must be discussed with me ★

UNIT SEQUENCE	TIMING	EVALUATION TASK(S)	ACHIEVEMENT CHART FOCUS	DUE DATE
Ongoing	Feb - June	Regular Journal Entries	All Categories	Periodic: Upon Request
Legal Heritage	Feb 3 – Feb 28	Legal Terminology Quiz	All Categories	Feb 28
		Timeline: Evolution of Law, Sources of Canadian Law	All Categories	Feb 21
Rights & Freedoms	Feb 29 – April 10	★ ¹ Civil Rights Law Then & Now	All Categories	March 9
		★ ² Charter Rights Case Analysis	All Categories	March 30
		Debate: Charter of Rights Section One	All Categories	April 10
Criminal Law	April 11 – May 8	★ ³ Groups depict the procedures of criminal law at different stages of the process	All Categories	April 17
		★ ² Newspaper Analysis: Briefly Summarize a current legal issue, analyse the discussion of that issue in a newspaper article	All Categories	April 20
		Mid-Term Test: Cumulative	All Categories	April 24
		Essay: Analyse various positions on the Youth Criminal Justice Act	All Categories	May 8
Civil Law	May 9 – May 29	Journal: Private & Public Law	All Categories	May 11
		★ ² Case Analysis: Civil Law	All Categories	May 21
		Journal: Analysing changes in the law due to social/tech. changes in the 20thC.	All Categories	May 28
Culminating Activities	May 30 - June	Mock Trial	All Categories	Late June?
		Exam	All Categories	June?

Choice Board

★ You may complete any assignment from the Choice Board below within the column indicated next to the star (i.e., 1, 2 or 3). Any additional options must be discussed with me. Closer to the due date for each assignment you will receive a specific outline of my expectations and the grading scheme I will use to evaluate your work; you must adhere to the requirements in the outline as well as those in the Choice Board below. ★

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3 (Presentations)
Poster Create a poster that includes at least 1 image, a slogan and a checklist of 5 important facts/figures. Also include website(s) where people can find out more information about your topic.	Website/Blog Create a website or blog. Include an introduction and conclusion, at least 5 photos, 1 video and 5 facts/figures that will inform the reader about your topic. Include links to other informative sites where people can find more info.	Speech/Poem/Song/Rant (Original) Write a speech/poem/song/rant/ rap that addresses your topic in a meaningful way and read/perform it for the class.
Image & Analysis Find an effective image that is related to your topic. Include a paragraph explaining your selection: Why did you pick this image? What does it say about the subject? Why is it an effective image? Etc.	Letter to the Editor/MP/MPP/ Government Write a letter to the editor of a publication <u>OR</u> to your member of parliament/government official that includes at least 5 facts/figures and a call to specific action around your topic.	News Report Create a video or live news report on your topic. Including at least 5 important facts/figures about your topic and present it to the class.
Song & Analysis (chosen) Choose a song that you think reflects the related issues in which you are interested. Include the lyrics and write a paragraph describing: Why is the song appropriate? What does it say about the subject? Why is it effective? Etc.	Short Story Write a short story inspired by your topic. For example, a narrative that follows someone who has been affected by your topic.	Conference/Fair Display Booth Create a display for a booth, making sure you include 3-5 photos, a logo and slogan and at least 5 facts/figures. Provide links to informative sites where people can find more info about your topic. Then present it to the class.
Create a Petition You must include a paragraph describing the related issue you want addressed, what action you would like the government or organization to take <u>AND</u> get 20 signatures in support.	Community Action Plan Write a report describing your topic and how it affects your community. Then write about how you would connect with the community to combat the issue through networking, volunteering and community outreach, for example.	Advertisement/Radio Spot Create a radio spot that includes a slogan and a checklist of at least 5 important facts/figures about your topic. Present it to the class.
Print Advertisement Create a print ad for a magazine/newspaper that includes an image and a checklist of at least 3 interesting facts/figures that encourage curiosity in the topic. Also include website(s) where people can find out more info.	Essay Write an essay about your topic following the criteria stipulated in the individual assignment outline. (To be distributed closer to the assignment due date)	Commercial/Video Shoot a 30 second TV spot to inform viewers about your topic. Including at least 5 facts/figures about the issue. Also include websites where people can find out more info. Present it to the class.